

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 12-14, 16-18, and 23-24 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over O'Dwyer (329) in view of either Haskell (011) or Lyman (740); and objected to claim 15 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 12-24 are pending in this Application. By this Reply, Applicant cancels claims 12-14, 16-18, and 23-24, and amends claim 15. Applicant points out that claims 19-22 were previously withdrawn from consideration for allegedly being directed to a non-elected species.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Examiner's indication that claim 15 contains allowable subject matter.

Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's rejection of claims 12-14, 16-18 and 23-24 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over O'Dwyer (329) in view of either Haskell (011) or Lyman (740). In order to expedite the prosecution of this Application, however, Applicant cancels claims 12-14, 16-18, and 23-24, rendering the Examiner's rejection of these claims moot. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the § 103(a) rejection of claims 12-14, 16-18 and 23-24.

The Examiner also objected to claim 15 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. By this Reply, Applicant amends claim 15 to include the limitations of previously presented claims 12 and 13, from which previously presented claim 15 depended. Accordingly, Applicant submits that the Examiner's objection is moot.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the objection to allowable claim 15.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of all pending claims in this Application.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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